

# PRECIOUS MORSELS.

I.

## FEATURES

OF

### SUNDRY GREAT PERSONAGES;

VIZ.

HIS MAJESTY, GEORGE THE THIRD;  
THE LATE EARL OF BUTE,  
AND PRESENT LORD HAWKESBURY;  
KING MIDAS MARCHED FROM HOME;  
THE BAMBOOZLED MYNHEERS;  
HIS SERENE HIGHNESS, JOHN BULL, PAY-  
MASTER GENERAL;

&c. &c.

II.

### A TIT-BIT FOR BILLY PITT,

&c. &c.

III.

### AMERICA FAST A-SLEEP.

IV.

## THE WONDERS

OF

### THE HATRED OF LIBERTY; A RAREE-SHOW.

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Whene'er his Highness meant a Joke,  
They grinn'd Applause before he spoke. GAY.

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## PREFACE.

THESE times cast an extraordinary light on human affairs, and are as a touchstone to shew whether men are actuated by a narrow, selfish, party spirit, or by that of extended benevolence and Christian philanthropy? and are so important, that just observations on them will be always interesting, through the memory of a revolution, in a manner counter to the nature of things, according to which, that which is smooth becomes smoother; whilst French manners, from smooth have become rough, and, perhaps, preserved the world from universal servility, and hopeless inanity, polished, and cold as marble.

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PREFACE.

The writer of these *Morceaus*, whom, he thanks God, the most affluent circumstances of his own could never unfeelingly reconcile to the present wretched condition of the world, began writing with dedicating his thoughts to religion and his country, in a book of poetry,\* mostly religious, than which he could never have done a

vainer

\* Gilbert Wakefield having informed the world, that the late Bishop Lowth was an insufficient scholar, and some of the reviewers, who did their worst to damn the *Galaxy*, the work alluded to, mentioned in the Appendix, which yet, to compare small things with great, will, like *Paradise Lost*, eventually make its way—the reviewers, I say, having echoed Dr. Wakefield's notable discovery, the Editor of the *Galaxy* thinks it his duty to observe, that there needs no other proof of Dr. Lowth's Hebrew learning, than his profound confutation of Bishop Hare. He thinks it his duty, because his Lordship was the only eminent person that ever noticed him, and he is, alas! no more: by which event, he has not only been a great loser by printing it, but lost £100. moré by means of a bankruptcy.

Whilst religion is made a mockery, degenerate Englishmen may prate as much as they please of the atheism of the French, and of their savageness, whilst themselves permit writers, however deserving, to hunger about the streets, as did Johnson, or perish like Chatterton. Nor will the

rich

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vainer thing, being since credibly informed, that religion is, in this country, regarded no farther than a chance lounge at fashionable places of worship. A piece of information that forcibly diverted his thoughts to other subjects, and at length to politics;

rich give half price for, nor even open a book, such as is the *Galaxy*, written evidently with the best intention, and, what now makes the Editor blush, with the childish hope of recommending piety and loyalty. As to all great men, he cannot help being so much of a literary republican, as to regard them just as much as they regard him; nor does he esteem dirty, prevaricating ministers more. Nor should a prince, who wishes for the protection of his subjects against a vigorous enemy, dislike a spice of the spirit of equal liberty in their veins, nor forget, that mercenary friendship is always precarious.

However, he hopes that indignation, just or unjust, will be deemed an excuse for informing the public, that one gentleman says, that the *Galaxy* contains the only version of scripture existing, in which it is not debased: another, that it contains many sentiments as elevated as ever entered into the heart of man. That this, though doubtless an exaggeration, has been said of it by good judges, the Editor calls God, to whom it is dedicated, to witness. Come who will, he can hardly be used worse than he has been by his own countrymen; and he thanks Heaven, that his condition will not compel him to fight for place-men, pensioners, and tyrants.

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and, the proverb not absolutely prohibiting truth, but only from being too freely spoken, he thinks he may speak it safely, contempt and imbecility being a shield from anger. Therefore preferring, whether merry or sad, that on which the Almighty has eternally fixed his pedestal, to every consideration whatever ; and clad in innocence and obscurity, he ventures to declare the truth, and nothing but the truth, yet not all the truth, which would bear too hard on august persons. Mr. Fox's bill having been extorted from certain large wigged sages, like drops of their most precious blood, it seems lucky that his M—y's present conscience-keeper had not at that time a loaf sufficient to allay his *famine*, and quite to his mind, till his courteous, smiling predecessor, kindly dropped his from his mouth. Yet I will not assert it impossible for a lawyer ever to act on principle.

Should

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Should these Papers, notwithstanding the good advice contained in them, be unacceptable to the higher powers, the Author candidly confesses, that were, in his opinion, the views of his countrymen inimical to the general welfare of mankind, as, (all things considered) he conceives those of ministers to be—that despising local prejudice, unworthy of a philosopher, he would not hesitate to regard himself as a citizen of the world. Or, should confirmed slavery be established throughout the world, he would have recourse to the more extended idea of being a member of the universe, and his soul still be free. For, in contradiction to the fashionable doctrine, that opinions depend entirely on education; as he travels towards the end of the vale of tears, an excellent description, as he has found it, of human life, his mind expands and opens into universal prospects; and whilst all earthly things lessen to his sight,

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of course his profound veneration for royalty itself is abated. This is the truth, and he shall sincerely rejoice when, on more knowledge, his mind returns to its pristine bias. In the mean time, he is not so foul-mouthed as to denominate any great person a *fat beggar*, as his pityers term Mr. Fox.

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### FEATURES

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MIDAS MARCHED FROM HOME:—THE BAMBOOZLED  
MYNHEERS;—HIS HIGHNESS, JOHN BULL, PAYMASTER  
GENERAL, &c.

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NONE are surely so unjust as to doubt his Majesty's love of peace. No warrior himself, he has no personal attachment to war, farther than the glory of a review, in which, with the additional delight of harrassing his men for nothing, his Grace the Duke of R——d has the honour of resemblance. Indeed it is surmised, that, like

Garrick, the king of actors, his Majesty is most ambitious of acting the part of an accomplished gentleman, than which, however, that of a farmer is far more valuable ; and of rivaling his son in elegance. Nevertheless, his Majesty is rather too fond of exhibiting his prowess, and too flush of money in foreign parts, as he may be assured, that, as heretofore, the more he does for foreign powers, the less they will do for themselves ; a consideration that should have rendered his Majesty less forward to become bound in surety for Europe, especially for the Empire of all the Russias ; it being a wise proverb, not to be too sanguine touching the reconciliation of a provoked enemy. But whoever considers that his Majesty's treasure is all at home, and of course his heart also—That Lord Bute was vilely abused ; that his Lordship attended to the *arts*, as does a great Queen to making toast, and loved not politics, but when necessitated to turn his mind to them ; always inculcated in his Royal Pupil the love of liberty and of his subjects, far above that of money, and an utter aversion to

to every thing like a stretch of power ; that, in particular, he disliked general warrants, which are, nevertheless, innocent things ; from all which it has come to pass, that his ghost now rules. That Lord Hawkesbury, being subordinately a pupil of Lord Bute, drank of the same excellent fount, consequently, had he any influence with his Majesty, it would be entirely for the benefit of the nation.—Whoever duly weighs these things, must laugh at the idle stories and follies propagated by wicked persons, and say *boo*.

And what if sinecures and pensions, bestowed for nothing, abound ? Is it not expedient that gentlemen of quality should be distinguished from the common herd, by idleness and privileges, that give them an air of *je ne scai quoi* and *sang froid* ? Ignorant persons are, in these days of metaphysical philosophy and swinish liberty, almost ready to believe, that the difference between the essential substance of the rich and poor is not immense, and founded in nature itself ; and that notwithstanding the remains

remains of Marat, that secret favourite of the high contracting powers, were, as repeatedly harped on by that impartial print, the *True Briton*, so highly offensive, far beyond aristocratic, to say nothing of royal clay—that, notwithstanding so recent and evident proof of the contrary, persons ignorant of the world still believe, or pretend to believe, that all the clay was dug from the same pit. Yet every genteel person understands, as well as he does the thirty-nine articles, that the blood, brains, and soul (that being, as far as is fashionable to think about it, now supposed material) are too different ever to have society, even in another world, were not the idea an immense bore.

Thus, as mankind in general was appointed to rule over brutes stronger than themselves, so were the slim quality assigned to govern coarse, vulgar wretches, great he-fellows, who are duly actuated with joy and gratitude at the sight of the affluent and luxurious, and their becoming dignity, and delighted with the *debonnaire* airs and agreeable

agreeable disdain of clerks in office, &c. who receive his Majesty's dues and their own perquisites in the most engaging manner imaginable. So that it is impossible for his Majesty's loving subjects to grudge the taxes, were they doubled, in the great cause of gentlemen, as properly distinguished from the generality.

For should this happen, it will be through beating down and destroying for ever the vain rights of common mankind, and absurd pretences of juries, and all such low stuff, as if they were as good judges of right and wrong as great lawyers, whose education peculiarly fits them for such decisions, and who are deputed by his sacred Majesty, the image of God, and his vicegerent on earth, for that particular purpose. Away, away with such nonsense and profanation.\* And if intelligent persons

\* As I am unable to do this idea justice, I refer the reader to the doctrines, viz. the recent doctrines of Mr. Burke, who never really relished preposterous liberty, otherwise than as a party-man, but was an aristocrat whig, and is therefore no turn-coat: and as he is never driven to sophistry and

sons take a view of the present war, they will more than ever glory in the name of Englishmen; who, gloriously exceeding their usual magnanimity and courage, have joined with Europe in bearing down one obnoxious nation, with such wonderful disinterestedness, generosity, and ~~flush~~ <sup>nothing but honest bedding</sup> of money.

Among the numerous errors at present over-running Christendom, is an opinion, that the triple courts of Russia, Vienna, and Berlin, are not equally disinterested; and that the imperial dove, the Czarina, whose exemplary magnanimity and justice can never permit her Imperial Majesty to take advantage, how tempting soever, has not, in the true spirit of Christianity, heartily forgiven England and Prussia for stopping her conquests on the dear Turk; an observation equally applicable to the present Emperor, the admirer of Joseph II. whose finances were exhaust-

and the sublime-obscure, to support his cause, it is doubtless a good one. Nor is Mr. Pitt, &c. fond of places and emoluments, or a Jesuit.

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ed by that war, the fruits of which were intercepted by the marked, Christian interference of Prussia and England. Besides, philanthropy and piety are the characteristics of Sovereigns, whose nostrils, and those of their noble satellites, are daily regaled with sweet words, though the latter should deserve a halter; and especially of Continental Sovereigns; a demonstration of which they gave in seizing on Poland in the name of God, and preventing the dissemination of philosophy, impiety, and atheism, which last, his late Majesty of Prussia, in whose steps his puissant Successor treads, so reprobated. As to the death of a few thousand Poles, and the destruction of the most complete form of government ever on earth, what are millions in comparison with one crowned head, or even great noble? Who then but must execrate a minister, to say nothing of favourites, for refusing to starve twenty or thirty millions of people, and be brow-beaten into war, to gratify a pig-headed youth, who is a King and Emperor? The minister, I mean, of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, who, as well

as the King of Poland, ought to be punished ; for it is not fit that little Sovereigns themselves should be sacred, unless they are subordinate to the greater ; and it is a fine thing, indeed, that a petty Prince should talk of extending philanthropy, Christian charity, and of independence, in opposition to narrow, contracted views, and the ties of proud flesh. Starving a numberless multitude of persons of all denominations, is, it seems, a newly discovered precept of Christianity, the author of which has declared, that those who are not for us are against us. Thus the breach of the law of nations is justifiable on urgent occasions ; and was so well taken by the sweet dove, Catherine, that she has not only forgiven us already, but is become our sincere friend. Why then do Leghorn, Florence, Copenhagen, or Stockholm, stand monuments of treachery and perfidy ?—  
*Down with them, down with them even to the ground !*

It is absurd in any power to fear that the success of the combined powers will prove

prove detrimental to independence. That their success will doubtless demonstrate their moderation and humility to all the world, as their determination to establish a free government, both in church and state, in France, is evident ; and Prince Cobourg's bare-faced revocation and cancel of his word and faith in the affair of Dumourier, was a base forgery, similar to that of the Duke of Brunswick's manifesto, totally inconsistent with the principles and ideas of great men, a declaration incredible to Dr. Moore, who thought it a sham. I hope I need not repeat to the reader, that neither Sovereign Princes, claiming divine right, nor their ministers (that of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, &c. excepted) claiming under them, can ever have the conscience to do wrong, when we know for certain that our own gracious Sovereign *cannot* do it.

As to the idea suggested by disaffected or perverse persons, that effectually to prevent the growth of fanatical opinions in

Holland, Austria or Prussia should kindly take possession of it. What then? Why, instead of a disadvantage, the effect would be quite the contrary, and, like Poland, Dantzick, or Thorne, she would find a powerful protector, and become a part of a mighty kingdom, which, were it not for the friendship of those powers with Britain, might, in due course of time, be able to equip naval armaments equal to that of Britain itself; and when Holland should thus become one with some great continental power, the opening of the Scheldt would appear in a quite different light from that in which it has been heretofore considered. So that whether the excellent old philosophy, on the principles of which, Poland has, in the name of the holy and undivided Trinity, been severed into parts tripartite, continues in force; or should even the new take place; it will be beyond the reach of the Northern Empress, or Emperor, to make both rogues and fools of certain ministers, could they be so base as to attempt it. Moreover, the name of

Howe,

( 13 )

Howe, so propitious in the American war,  
is an additional presumption that the old  
philosophy will prevail.

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**FINIS.**

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**A TIT**

## A TIT-BIT FOR BILLY PITTS.

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BILLY is a three-fold composition of jesuit-craft, law-craft,\* and state-craft, and understands quibbling on the equal rights of man as well as any tight little judge who-soever; and surely a certain one will be no more affronted with a notorious supposition of inferior abilities, equivalent to having *Ne sutor ultra crepidam* whispered in his ear.

Billy was by his Father early initiated into the mysteries of state, eventually brought by Billy to great perfection. For, with all his impetuous fire, unmixed with the phlegm of Billy, his Father, if Bubb

\* Were the French to come, they would probably atone for a multitude of crimes by destroying a multitude of lawyers.

Dod-

Doddington may be credited, had a portion of the fox's leaven in his composition; which was, it seems, visible in pushing the North Americans so far, and no farther, to a certain point, and then, when they were urged to throw off the yoke entirely, to check the concession mid-way, so as to keep the ball up. Nevertheless, when Billy came into play, he, by a furious speech, overturned this shrewd policy of his Father, and was desperate enough to contend for the denial of supplies, during a war with half Europe, and thus made a complete fool of poor John Bull, never remarkable for penetration.

That Billy plays a double game cannot be doubted, if we may believe what Mr. B. (set a r—e to catch a r—e) declared during his Majesty's illness, that Billy lengthened the lion's teeth with the fox's tail; and thus Billy, the crocodile, excites and laments the troubles in France, nor does Billy approve of any alarmists being there.

But

But though Mr. B. besides drawing several of the royal teeth, and even pricking the gums, was said to be extremely exasperated at his Majesty's recovery, yet he is now become a favourite, not of interest, but affection ; such strange things happen in this world. Still who dares say that he is a turn-coat, and glories in his shame ; or that he has subverted and annihilated the whole business of his life, and converted his professions and himself to a jest ? No, that is not it : not he, but the times are altered.

But to return to Billy—Billy finding in himself sparks of heavenly genius within him blown to a flame by the angelic influence of the fair sex, so predominant in all noble breasts and inspired by nature herself, in spite of all stoics and rigid divines, determined, at all events, to render himself of consequence, as yelping in a certain chapel is sure to do ; and said he to himself, my name is Billy P—tt, and—

Flectere si nequeam superos, Acheronta morebo.

And

And accordingly, as the old gentleman below seldom fails to back our endeavours, so it opportunely happened that Old England was at war with America, France, Spain, and Holland, at once, whilst our present continental allies (so strangely, as I have said, do things sublunary change) were thought all to squint towards humbling Old England, who was, indeed, sinking under a weight similar to that under which France is now struggling. Well, what did Billy, the King's friend, do, but make a flaming speech, the intention of which was to deny his Majesty supplies in his most trying exigency? but he was over-ruled, and supplies were granted: and though Billy is no turn-coat neither, yet some think it strange, that he bitterly execrated a similar proceeding of the coalition in the year 1784, and are apt to exclaim

When such censors reprove, who but laughs at the farce,  
And thinks that the pot calls the kettle black a——e?

Is it criminal to surmise, that, hypocrisy being arrived at its zenith, the tinsel fabric

may, perchance, suddenly fall to the ground, like an edifice of cards. But so it was—Billy reprobated, in a very angry manner, the same proposal, by making which he forced himself into power; a mode of practice Billy still pursues, in regard to a reform of Parliament, and brings to mind the answer made to one asking when it was proper to marry—*A young man (was the answer) not yet, and an old one never.*

The Marquis of Lansdowne was the person on whose ladder Billy came into power, which he kicked down when he had done with it;—yet Billy is not ungrateful.

When Lord Howe's conduct in the Admiralty was disapproved of, Billy, with a very adroit sham, defended him with such zeal as he supposed would oust him; and was not mistaken, and then slipped in his Brother. For as to abilities, thought Billy, the yellow boys will be equally bright, with or without genius, and the underlings can do the business: besides, my capacity of

of supererogation is sufficient for us both, and the surplus of a double plenum will supply one vacuum. Yet who dares say Billy is a Jesuit, or sing *Billy P—tt the Tory*, seeing that Billy walked into authority on whig stilts ; and that he and his kinsfolks have got a very decent number of places, and very pretty pickings, and do not wish Monsieurs to take any of them away.

Also, the truth is, that both Mr. B. and Billy love the strongest side, especially at a time, when to betray the people is the road to popularity, and when John Bull is become very servile, and very much what France was, and when cunning people have learnt to despise them into admiration : for Billy is cunning, like his master, has over-reached the Spaniard, and great-souled Empress, struts very prettily in his robes, is pert and glib, smiles charmingly, shews his teeth, and knows how to hold the balance between the crown and people ; and to look big or little, as occasion requires, and to make pretty sure of his

power, should not the war throw Billy off his firm? The truth is, also, Billy is naturally an aristocrat-whig, and stepping in between, would (as Catherine sets Europe to her thermometer) wish to rule both King and people, were not John Bull in his dudgeon, and were not the strength of the stream for prerogative great, like the zeal of the aristocrats to support the crown and themselves, by clinging about it; otherwise, none hate it more than do aristocrat-whigs, witness the Rockingham administrations, when Mr. B. was represented in prints drawing the royal teeth, and calling an intermission of ministers an interregnum, and the dissolution of Parliament, in 1784, a revolution, before that gentleman professedly turned his coat—No, no, he did not turn it; I mean, he only hung out the sign of inverted pockets,

But to return to Billy—He is acquainted with the art of paying with one hand whilst he borrows with the other, and now at length, of saving at the spicket and letting out at the bung-hole; yet Billy must know,

know, that three hundred millions borrowed in a century, will duly amount to six hundred in two, and so on. And I a little suspect, that when Billy has served the turn of the higher powers, he, now that cunning is the word, will, with a gentle push and grin, be turned out a grazing like Nebuchadnezzar. It seems, indeed to me, that during this strange chaos, when saving national money would be the only sure line of policy, and spending it may, for what any one can tell, be worse than throwing it into truth's well ; and when the spirit seems to be again moving on the face of the deep ; that things sublunary are more uncertain than ever, and that the situation, both of ministers and kings, is precarious. Let then Billy, though equal to a cat in falling on his legs, attend to these things, and not be too bountiful of John Bull's cash, seeing, that when hands change, it may be employed against him. At present, Billy is extremely angry that any great man should receive any donations from John Bull, but such as are milked from John by force : court charity, indeed,

indeed, Billy likes, but no other. Billy, too, is vexed that Charley is a better companion than he, a greater favourite with the ladies, though depicted as a bear ; then, surely, Billy must be a hedge-hog. It is said, that Billy loves port better, and that he commends tobacco, and no wonder, since, during his ministry, John Bull has had more excise crammed down his throat, by far, than he ever had before, or would by any means have borne during the time of Sir Robert,

Charley Fox has been accused of inconsistency and apostacy, and, perhaps, with a degree of truth ; yet it must be confessed, that opinions may change, and that those of a boy, inculcated by education, may alter when he becomes a man ; and that in the affair of the coalition, he did not go over to Lord North, but Lord North came over to him. And the writer of the *Tit-bit*, who most certainly never expects a mite from any party, sincerely rejoices that there are men who, whether from principle or otherwife (God only knowing the heart)

heart) stand in the gap, and really thinks the tears of pity shed over the Man of the People, because of their contributions to him, to be of the true crocodile kind. And it seemed remarkable, that the authors of the two celebrated popular works, which, according to the hidden nature of things, persecution will render immortal, shou'd agree in malignity, I may say, towards poor Charley ; and that the writer of one of them, the J—y C—b, should prefer the parliamentary talents of Sh—n, whose genius possesseſſes, it must be confefſed, the sparkling of Champaigne, but not the riches of Cyprus. And this leads me to a reflection, that ſore as are great men to the probe of truth, when chara- cters on both ſides are equally open to the *ridiculum* of the press and of the print- shops, the ministerial ſide only dare adopt the *acre*, and cowardly threaten their oppo- nents with prosecutions, if they retort ; as does, for instance, the editor of the True Briton that of the Morning Chronicle, ex- clusive of numberleſſ misrepresentations. It is ſurely to be regretted, that the more powerful

powerful party should take every paltry advantage—a thing abhorrent to the genius of Britain, and before which fell the liberty of Greece.

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## POSTSCRIPT.

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### WALMER CASTLE.

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O! BILLY is a wanton wag,  
The blitheſt lad that e'er I ſaw;  
And has ſo well the gift of *gab*,  
He makes John Bull his purse-ſtrings draw.

He can armies raise and navies,  
He can venture on a war,  
Of men and money make new levies,  
His like is neither near nor far.

For *Catſkins* when he went to fight,  
Of insults offer'd, loud did bawl,  
And honest John, who thought him right,  
At laſt agreed to pay for all.

But

But Billy then was in a passion,  
 Swore he'd give John, Nootka Sound,  
 Yet by this fam'd negociation,  
 John got ne'er an inch of ground.

With Russia then he would be fighting,  
 For Oczakow, to please the Turk,  
 But (John not much in war delighting)  
 Fox soon expos'd his hum-bug work.

For Billy's plans are always droll,  
 Nor saw he Poland on his map;  
 All liberty, from pole to pole,  
 He threw in Kate's voracious lap.

And now he's gone to war with France,  
 Where men and money John must fend;  
 And surely's running such a dance,  
 That God knows when his wars may end.

From East to West, from South to North,  
 O'er Europe all the sword he'll dra'—  
 And not content he'll still hold forth,  
 And quarrel with America.

As he can drink, and not be drunk,  
 As he can fight, and not be slain,  
 As he can speak, and strike the trunk  
 That never dar'd to strike again:

Then what cares he for thousands lost,  
 Or, if he gains, for thousands slain;  
 What is't to him what wars may cost,  
 What, widows' tears, or mothers' pain !

D

And

And so for sport he's gone to Dover,  
 With D—s, and R—e, and L—g,  
 And though bad to dash in cover,  
 They say he can do no wrong,

And they're a set of merry wags,  
 The blitheſt lads that e'er we ſaw,  
 While o'er the bottle Harry brags  
 That honest John muſt pay for a'.

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FINIS.

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**AMERICA**

## AMERICA FAST A-SLEEP.

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On the short-sightedness and blindness of mankind, the history of the world affords not a more striking example, than the circumstances of the late revolt of North America: and, so far as that event, King George the Third and Louis the Sixteenth acting in direct opposition to each other, have jointly contributed to the present birth of liberty in America and Europe. Nevertheless, it may happen, that by the progress of the rule of contraries, liberty will be strangled, and at last destroyed, by those very events.

It seemed highly propitious to the rights of mankind, that there were no nobility in North America; for had that been the case, and the Americans had attacked them

as the French have done, and the priesthood likewise ; the aristocratic whigs, who, in their party struggles for places and power, and enmity to the crown, whilst they hoped to tyrannize over both, over-shot themselves, of which oversight they now severely repent, for having unintentionally promoted hitherto the welfare of the people in the New World.—In that case, those whigs would have been as bitter foes to the Americans as they are now to the French. Whether, however, the Marquis of Rockingham's sentiments accorded with this description, I am not so unjust and so rash as to pronounce : yet if they did not, those of some of his understrappers evidently do ; and one of them, who now with wild rage, that, in the opinion of Lord Stanhope and others, hurried him into high treason, exceeds the tory doctrines of his quondam fierce antagonist, Dr. Shepbeare, and is the very acme of contradiction, did not the nominal minister's present attachment to the same person, who lately said, that all the wickedness since the beginning of the world was centered

centered in him, vie with it: Indeed it seems to be the aim at present, to be incredibly absurd, like the Duke of Brunswick, in publishing his manifesto, for laying waste with fire and sword a country he invaded as its kind and humane friend; and it is really probable, that the strange inconsistencies and apostacies of these times will be incredible to posterity, or regarded as *Lufus Naturæ*.

This war seems dreadfully to threaten the ruin of the powers really engaged in it, of which number Catherine can hardly be deemed one; her backward game, after spurring otherson, being evident, even to conjuring up a storm to impede the sailing of her navy. Nor, were h—l at her command, could any thing be more agreeable to her wishes, than the fight of Europe exhausting itself, whilst she plays with it like a cat with a mouse, and at the same time gets the balance of accounts of Poland and Europe into her hands.

However,

However, should France be crushed, it seems greatly to be feared that North America, at which the despot of Europe now look with a malignant eye, as the Pandora, from whose box, liberty and happiness were likely to pervade mankind, had they not put a spoke in fortune's wheel, may be devoured at last, especially as she has no fleet to defend her, and has the Indians on her back. It indeed seems certain, that the united monarchies and aristocracies of Europe, and other parts of America, will, with reason, never think themselves safe, whilst that Carthage remains. That North America will always be a dreadful eye-sore, as being the sole monument of equal freedom on earth, cannot be doubted. It is affirmed that the existence of such liberty in extensive nations is impossible, but that is no great matter for hirelings to assert.

One of the very extraordinary things of these days, is, that Great Britain and Prussia, after the late deadly affront put on the Czarina, at the expence of some millions,

millions, have suddenly made her our friend, and employ her as a scarecrow to prevent the Turk from joining the French. In all these affairs, it is evident what sway Christianity, for the breach of which France is excommunicated from the pale of charity, really bears ; whilst the plea makes the careless laugh, and the thoughtful weep. God Almighty ! That Russia, Austria, Prussia, and England, should seriously pretend to religion and saintship.

However, it is not quite clear with what intention she hangs back ? whether it may not be concerted, that bye and bye an hundred thousand Russians, &c. are to be poured into America : for certain it is, that the mockery of right, justice, common sense, and of God, in the invasion of Poland, shews evidently to the whole world, that the despots of Europe will stick at nothing ; and is a great alleviation of many of the excesses of the French, who saw all the languages of Europe ransacked for epithets of abuse and contempt, and knew that they were execrated by the proud

proud flesh of the earth, from the beginning of their revolution, as much as was possible, do what they would, and that no stone would be left unturned to destroy it, and therefore resolved to be before-hand with as many of their enemies as they could. And it is not to be wondered, that in such circumstances they abhorred the idea of royalty, the revival of which must prove fatal to them, and detested all those who did not; and that they determined to make royalty itself feel the direful effects of their resentment, for which the last century furnished them with a precedent, when England had not the colour of a plea of invasion. Yet they attacked neither Savoy nor the Netherlands, till the designs of the German Courts were absolutely evident, and their troops were on their march; and they have since been censured for making reprisals.

Royalty treated with indignity, is undoubtedly a thing of very ungracious, and of dismal aspect to proud flesh. Yet I must confess, that, in my opinion, the threatened

ened extirpation of a populous nation, whose cause itself is, I apprehend, good, and connected with general welfare, greatly out-weighs, the narrow consideration of the disgrace and sufferings of any individuals, which yet I much lament, and the more, because injurious to the great cause of liberty. It is highly to be lamented, that royal personages have fallen a sacrifice to their unfortunate flight, and to more unhappy premature disavowals ; and, above all, that the events should prove fatal to liberty and to humanity ; as wherever God has a temple, the Devil has a chapel. Extremity is opposed to extremity, and fury is the natural offspring of desperation ; and nothing is more illogical than arguing against the use of a thing from its abuse ; nor will any but the most despicable idiots return to their vomit, from a constitution, to try the merits of which was never quietly permitted. Of one balanced and contrasted, that is neither horse nor ass, undue influence, or precariousness, is the natural consequence.

That Dr. Moore could doubt of the intrigues of the French Court, is surprising. To me it appeared an impossibility for the French to carry on the war, whilst egregious dupes to court duplicity ; that they could do nothing else than to suspend the King, and that he fell a sacrifice to a barbarous foreign policy. This, I, who am far beneath the consideration of any party, speak from the bottom of my heart and soul, and declare, that had I been worth £100,000. I would have given £50,000. to have saved the life of the unfortunate Louis.

It is curious, that after the proclamation for hastening the meeting of Parliament, and the denunciations made at its meeting, England should persist in attributing the declaration of war to France. Did not our ministers build upon the idiotism of the nation, they would never attempt such gross and palpable fallacies. But what, though quite of another kind, seems extraordinary and alarming, is our inability to equip naval armaments of the strength we were

were wont to do, owing partly, it is said, to the emigration of our sailors through want of encouragement after disarming ; for it seems that Britain, which lately contended with a considerable part of the world, would not now be a match in war for France alone. Is not this to be attributed to too much trade and commerce, that have blotted out Holland from among the powers of Europe ? And is not England top-heavy with distant possessions, of the western parts of which, however, North America may in due time ease us, whenever it shall produce a man of ambition ? As to Prussia, if its politic King was, according to the surmise of Lady Wallace, afraid of the republican spirit of his own troops, the consequence may be, that whilst his Majesty's territories are left to the care of his new ally, the Empress, it may evaporate, or, on the contrary, be more strongly impregnated with the French influenza, which, how formidable soever, does not appear more so to the Danes and Swedes, than 300,000 Russians at their doors.

It is certain that arbitrary power is highly injurious both to despots and their subjects ; that it degrades and sinks them both into imbecility, torpor, and brutality, of different kinds, as opposite extremes meet here too : and that should, according to the proverb, every dog have his day, its natural consequence, exemplified in France, is, that men are eventually oppressed into tyranny ; and thus the wish to reign over a free people is really the wisest a sovereign can entertain.

I am of opinion, that persons of the best hearts and most exalted wishes were pleased with the French revolution, through a vague hope of immense magnitude, no less than that of an eventual melioration and elevation of mankind, grounded on the suggestions of scripture, a thing totally incompatible with the present system of things, with the abject subjection of millions of mankind to a few, however foolish and wicked. Of the heaven on earth, England, in the metropolis of which, alone, numerous wretches become constant victims to the

the criminal law, whilst the expences and delays of civil suits are dreadful engines of oppression ; the magistrates and informers are deemed angels, and its ministers divinities, whilst the chief busines of the odious press is to feed the great with indiscriminate flattery, and cajole the people. The natural consequence of abusing persons of blood and opulence, by attributing to them qualities to which their souls are strangers, and which they wish not to possess, is the open contempt of virtue on one hand, and indignation on the other. If we may believe Chaucer, the populace had, some hundred years ago, both eyes and ears, and why is it supposed that they have lost them now ? Had they lost their sinews and muscles, it would be worse for those whose pride and luxury they protect. It is said, that the French were, till lately, happy in their ignorance : so may be brutes, and even negroes, were they not condemned to thankless and hopeless slavery ; and as to the usual motives for keeping persons in ignorance, they may be conjectured, without consulting the priesthood. Sure I

am,

am, according to Dr. Parr, that gross ignorance is little worthy of the possessors of immortal souls; and that the world may no more go backwards, either in knowledge or liberty, is the sincere, disinterested wish and prayer of the penner of these trifles. May God Almighty avert so dire a calamity.

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FINIS.

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THE

*THE WONDERS*

OF

*THE HATRED OF LIBERTY;**A RAREE-SHOW.*


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**B**EHOLD a whited sepulchre in perfection—  
 Crooked politics and low cunning, ramping  
 whigs becoming rank tories, and ten thou-  
 sand taylors turning coats—Open irreligion  
 abroad, and hypocrisy at home; fasts made  
 feasts by the proclaimers, and atheists exe-  
 crating free-thinkers—Liberty hated the  
 most of any thing in the world, except  
 the gospel of humility, and seized at once  
 by the body, arms, legs, hands, fingers,  
 and toes, because abused by a band of ban-  
 ditti in France; and an Empress sitting  
*perdue,*

*perdue*, and making sport of Europe—Poland seized in the same manner, and horribly plundered, in the name of God and Jesus Christ; and a nation (not Britain, be assured) weeping over it outwardly, and pleased with it inwardly—A veil thrown over all crimes but French\*—Ministers (not British, be assured) inflaming and

\* The greatest enemies of the French cannot deny, that something may be said in favour of their revolution. But no excuse can be pleaded for a woman, who, with matchless tyranny, surpassing Louis's invasion of Corsica and treachery towards England, in the affair of North America, has plunged an independant people, emerging with the fairest hopes from long misery, into poverty, slavery, and perjury. A serpent, that a wise government, intent on acquiring the Divine favour, ought, instead of forcing Denmark and Sweden, &c. into her voracious, poisonous maw, to shun as a pestilence. A monster, that, said a gentleman, drily, will one day be as deep in hell as she is now in politics. Enormities, notwithstanding, at the recital of which I rarely see aristocratic cheeks redden, or hear ministers declaim.

It is, however, some small consolation to Englishmen not dead to feeling for the destruction of a constitution so complete, an improvement of their own, and far too good not to be odious—that since the passing of Mr. Fox's bill, they may vent their indignation on a subject, the due animadversion of

and reprobating anarchy and barbarity, and quibbling and declaiming against the rights of man—America in a dream—A boy in prison proclaimed king, in hopes of his being \*\*\*—A fat alderman and dignified

of which would have otherwise been a libel of atrocity, proportionate to its truth and importance. A venerable law of libels, that was wrung like drops of blood from the august fages; but in amends, the press now teems with fulsome adulation, that makes all men sick.

Is, then, the grateful kindness of the people to their great champion, disgraceful; but court-charity to drones, parasites, and hirelings, honourable and praise-worthy? On the contrary, the author of a very able work, the truths contained in which drove him, like a certain famous republican, abroad, in the Preface to his inimitable *Strictures*, observes, that “ It is more congenial with a liberal spirit “ to be beholden to popular favour, than to draw advantage from individual bounty.”

But (this digression apart) horrible is the doctrine, that sovereign princes, to whose outrages no bounds are, or can be set, are to be tenderly spoken of, and delicately treated, though they convert the world to a desert. Without liberty and free-will, God’s best gifts, and the essential properties of intellectual beings, the human species sinks hopeless into stupid brutality; or else the conscious-immortal soul springs up with elastic energy, determined and irresistible, whilst artificial greatness vanishes like the baseless fabric of a vision.

divine cramming and chuckling, and exhorting the poor and oppressed to wait patiently for redress till the resurrection ; and enjoying, in idea, the sight of twenty-five millions of men, women, and children, perishing with hunger—A (not English, be sure) Bishop's Sunday rout, and bakers' ovens shut against the weekly comfort of poor families—A free English sailor torn from the sight of his frantic wife and family, after a tedious absence—A swinish multitude with asses' ears, without clothes, fuel, or victuals, huzzaing for the Roast Beef of Old England, and braying for placemen and pensioners—A string of aristocrats saluting, in due order, the hinder parts of each other with alacrity—John Bull appointed Lord High Paymaster General, and metamorphosed into the old French breed the butt of every farce—The bulk of mankind trampled on by a few individuals, often the worst of the species ; and the wealth of nations devoured by haughty, disdainful drones—An Italian chained to the oar for stumbling over a hare, and a British freeholder rotting in jail for killing

ring a partridge on his own grounds—Humanity openly and deliberately renounced, and Providence mocked, in the treatment of negroes—A German foot-soldier caned for looking awry, and a horse-soldier punished because his horse stumbled, as rewards for their exemplary zeal against equality—Patriotism and virtue despised as impracticable, and the divine constitution of the nature of things arraigned—The bulwarks of Protestantism cheek by jowl with the Turk and Pope, namely, the open and secret Antichrists ; and rather than not subdue the unchristian French, Peter's pence to be revived—Three hundred millions of debt contracted through continental connexions, by a duped nation, now drawn in by a temporizing, dangerous woman, and others, to be bound surety for a large part of the globe—Spiritual courts canvassing subjects that would put Irish temporal judges to the blush—Law-suits of forty years, equitable standing—Lawyers handsomely feathering their nests with bankruptcies, those splendid proofs of national prosperity ; and creditors kept in profound

darkness by attornies and commissioners—  
Boroughs, like dung, the more prolific for  
being rotten ; and those of private property  
denominated constitutional—No reform  
ever to be made, nor good ever to be done,  
for fear of evil—Religion to be made a  
stalking horse, and passive obedience, non-  
resistance, and slavery, to be confirmed  
every where, except in Great Britain, Ire-  
land, and America, in the name of the  
*repose of Europe*, now and evermore, Amen.

WM. BELCHER,

THE END.

